

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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TRADE UNION STATISTICS, DECEMBER 1969

The figures contained in this bulletin have been obtained from the annual collection of membership of trade unions, etc. as at 31 December 1969. For comparison, figures for some earlier years are also shown. More detailed statistics for earlier years and a description of these series appear in the Labour Report and the Official Year Book. This is the first publication of this series in the form of a mimeographed bulletin.

2. Table 1 of this bulletin shows the number of unions and membership in each State and Territory; Tables 2 and 3 figures for industry groups; Tables 4 and 5 the proportion of total wage and salary earners; Table 6 a classification according to the number of members; and Table 7 interstate unions classified by the area of operation. On page 4 details are shown of organisations registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

3. In Tables 1 and 3, under the heading "Number of Separate Unions", a union with members in a State or Territory is counted as one union within that State or Territory. The figures do not add to the Australian total because a union represented in more than one State or Territory is included in the figures for each State or Territory in which it is represented, but is counted only once in the Australian total.

4. Where membership figures have been rounded in this bulletin, any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

TABLE 1. - TRADE UNIONS : NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP, STATES

State or Territory	Number of separate unions		Number of members ('000)					
	Dec. 1968	Dec. 1969	December 1968			December 1969		
			Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
New South Wales	210	210	668.2	193.3	861.5	679.9	204.9	884.8
Victoria	153	152	417.6	133.0	550.7	421.7	138.0	559.8
Queensland	135	135	250.9	83.2	334.1	253.1	83.3	336.4
South Australia	133	135	153.1	32.5	185.6	158.6	35.6	194.2
Western Australia	157	153	123.1	37.8	160.9	122.8	39.3	162.2
Tasmania	112	112	54.8	13.4	68.2	55.4	14.4	69.9
Northern Territory (b)	40	43	4.6	1.0	5.6	5.0	0.9	5.9
Australian Capital Territory (b)	70	70	18.8	5.2	24.1	20.9	5.2	26.0
<u>Australia</u>	(a) 319	(a) 309	1,691.1	499.5	2,190.7	1,717.5	521.6	2,239.1

(a) Without interstate duplication. See para. 3 above. (b) Some unions in the Territories are affiliated with State organisations and their membership is reported under the heading of that State. More accurate reporting of membership by location over the years is reflected in the annual figures for the Territories and this affects their comparability over time.

TABLE 2. - TRADE UNIONS : INDUSTRY GROUPS (a), AUSTRALIA

Industry group (a)	Number of separate unions		Number of members ('000)	
	December 1968	December 1969	December 1968	December 1969
Agriculture, grazing, etc.	3	3	58.5	58.3
Mining and quarrying	12	12	34.5	34.2
Manufacturing -				
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	9	9	352.4	363.3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	5	5	107.3	99.9
Food, drink and tobacco	31	28	125.9	134.3
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	6	6	34.7	32.8
Paper, printing, etc.	5	5	59.2	59.9
Other manufacturing	22	22	87.6	90.4
Total manufacturing	78	75	767.1	780.5
Building and construction	23	20	145.5	139.1
Railway and tramway services	22	22	124.3	123.7
Road and air transport	11	12	77.5	80.4
Shipping and stevedoring	13	12	32.0	30.6
Banking, insurance and clerical	15	14	147.0	149.0
Wholesale and retail trade	11	11	89.7	88.3
Public authority (n.e.i.), etc. (b)	71	69	436.6	457.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	21	21	58.6	62.4
Other industries (c)	39	38	219.3	235.3
Total	319	309	2,190.7	2,239.1

(a) This table does not supply a precise classification of trade unions and their members by industry. This is because in cases where the members of a union are employed in a number of industries they have been classified to the predominant industry for the union concerned. Comparability between years of membership figures for an industry group may be affected by amalgamation of trade unions classified to different industry groups. (b) Includes communication and municipal, etc. (c) Includes community and business services.

TABLE 3. - TRADE UNIONS : INDUSTRY GROUPS (a), STATES, DECEMBER 1969

State	Manufacturing	Building and construction	Transport	Public authority (n.e.i.), etc. (b)	Other (c)	All groups
Number of separate unions						
New South Wales	51	12	34	49	64	210
Victoria	45	9	20	38	40	152
Queensland	28	6	24	38	39	135
South Australia	39	6	19	36	35	135
Western Australia	32	6	20	44	51	153
Tasmania	30	6	14	29	33	112
Australia (d)	75	20	46	69	99	309
Number of members ('000)						
New South Wales	350.2	52.7	99.5	164.4	218.0	884.8
Victoria	215.8	35.2	50.7	109.4	148.8	559.8
Queensland	79.6	20.3	36.6	68.1	131.8	336.4
South Australia	68.5	9.9	20.5	48.4	46.9	194.2
Western Australia	37.8	12.8	19.6	36.8	55.2	162.2
Tasmania	24.0	4.3	6.6	17.9	17.0	69.9
Australia (e)	780.5	139.1	234.7	457.2	627.6	2,239.1

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 2. (b) See footnote (b) to Table 2. (c) Includes agriculture, etc; mining and quarrying; banking, insurance and clerical; wholesale and retail trade; amusement, hotels, personal service, etc; and community and business services. (d) Without interstate duplication. See para. 3, page 1. (e) Includes members in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

Proportion of Total Wage and Salary Earners. Tables 4 and 5 below show the approximate percentages of wage and salary earners in employment who were members of trade unions. The estimates of total wage and salary earners have been derived by adding figures for employees in rural industries and in private domestic service recorded at the 1966 Population Census to the estimates of employees in all other industries as at the end of each year. In comparing the percentages shown in these tables with those previously published, allowance should be made for the fact that the present percentages are based on a new series of employment estimates as from June 1966. The change is more significant for female employees as the new employment estimates include a considerable number of part-time employees who had previously been excluded.

TABLE 4. - TRADE UNIONS -
PROPORTION OF TOTAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a)
DECEMBER 1969

State	Number of members ('000)			Proportion of total wage and salary earners (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
New South Wales (b)	700.8	210.1	910.8	61	37	53
Victoria	421.7	138.0	559.8	52	32	45
Queensland	253.1	83.3	336.4	63	48	58
South Australia	158.6	35.6	194.2	57	27	48
Western Australia	122.8	39.3	162.2	55	37	49
Tasmania	55.4	14.4	69.9	60	36	53
Northern Territory	5.0	0.9	5.9	25	11	21
<u>Australia</u>	1,717.5	521.6	2,239.1	58	36	50

(a) Percentages not comparable with previously published percentages. See text above. (b) Includes the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 5. - TRADE UNIONS -
PROPORTION OF TOTAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, AUSTRALIA (a)

End of December -	Number of members ('000)			Proportion of total wage and salary earners (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1966	1,657.5	466.0	2,123.5	60	37	53
1967	1,663.7	487.6	2,151.3	59	37	52
1968	1,691.1	499.5	2,190.7	59	36	51
1969	1,717.5	521.6	2,239.1	58	36	50

(a) Percentages not comparable with previously published percentages. See text above.

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TABLE 6. - TRADE UNIONS - CLASSIFICATION ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF MEMBERS, AUSTRALIA

Number of members	Number of separate unions		Number of members ('000)	
	December 1968	December 1969	December 1968	December 1969
Under 2,000	212	202	112.3	109.3
2,000 and under 5,000	41	40	135.8	135.8
5,000 " " 10,000	14	15	103.5	108.6
10,000 " " 20,000	21	19	304.4	268.4
20,000 " " 30,000	7	8	168.8	188.5
30,000 " " 40,000	6	7	211.6	250.2
40,000 " " 50,000	6	5	263.5	266.1
50,000 and over	12	13	890.7	912.2
<u>Total</u>	319	309	2,190.7	2,239.1

TABLE 7. - INTERSTATE OR FEDERATED TRADE UNIONS, AUSTRALIA

End of December--	Unions operating in -					Total
	2 States	3 States	4 States	5 States	6 States	
Number of unions						
1966			22	31	75	142
1967			22	27	77	140
1968			18	26	81	141
1969			18	23	84	142
Number of members ('000)						
1966	20.9	21.0	243.3	402.5	1,242.0	1,929.6
1967	22.2	20.4	184.9	281.8	1,447.7	1,957.0
1968	21.9	21.8	152.5	326.1	1,474.4	1,996.7
1969	22.5	31.0	130.0	294.8	1,571.9	2,050.2

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION ACT

At the end of 1969 the number of employers' organisations registered under provisions of the Act was 75 (74). The number of unions registered at the end of 1969 was 149 (147), with membership of 1,901,100 (1,836,000), representing 85 (84) percent of total membership of all trade unions in Australia. Comparable figures for 1968 are shown in brackets.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

28 MAY 1970

J. P. O'NEILL

ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.